

Introduction to Environmental

Partnering for Success

We deliver so you can deliver



Transportation
Planning Academy

Introduction to Environmental

Overview

- Departmental - Who we are
- Organizational - Why we do what we do
- Operational - What we do
- Procedural – Environmental roles and expectations

Introduction to Environmental

Environmental's Role in the Project Delivery Process

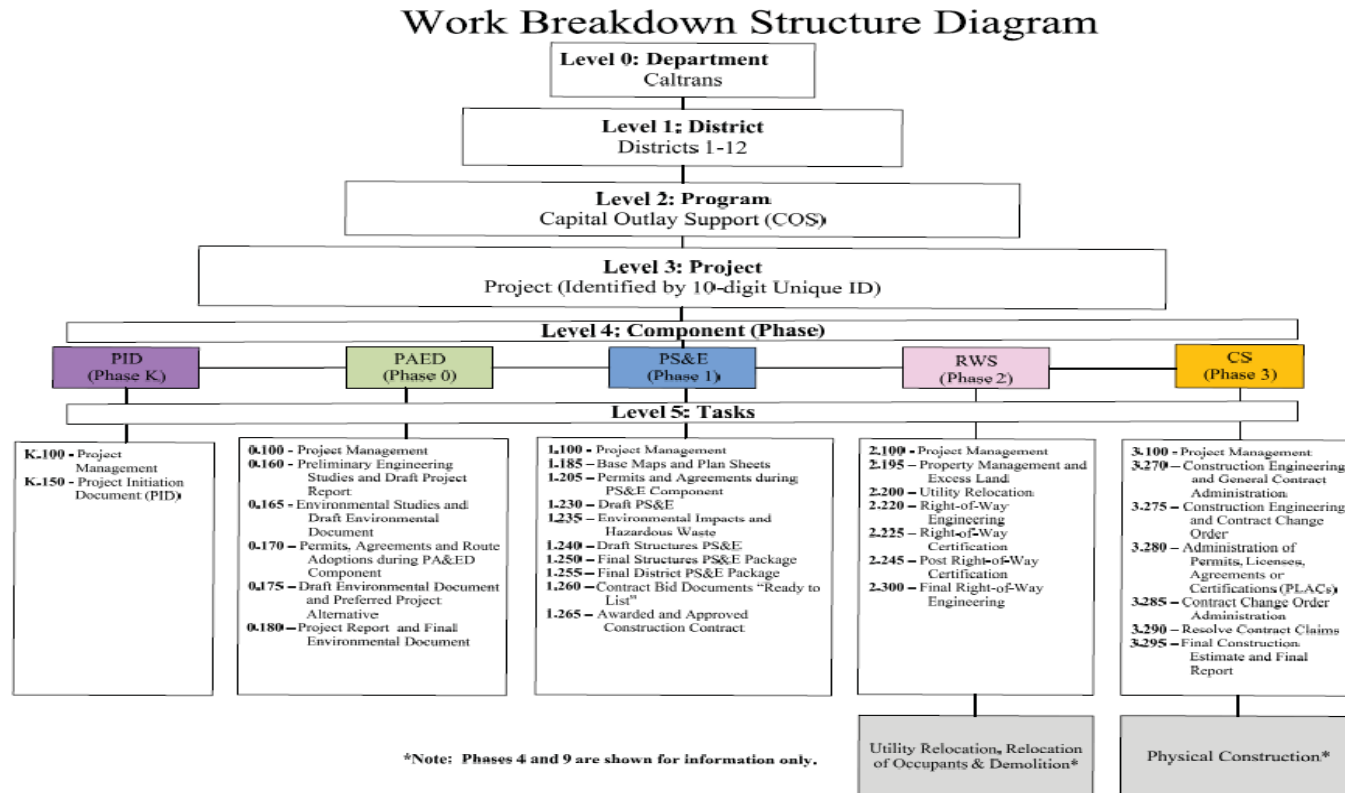
- Connecting people with transportation projects – internally and externally
- Connecting expertise to issues
- Connecting transportation projects to the environment

Introduction to Environmental

Partners in implementing Caltrans Mission, Vision and Goals

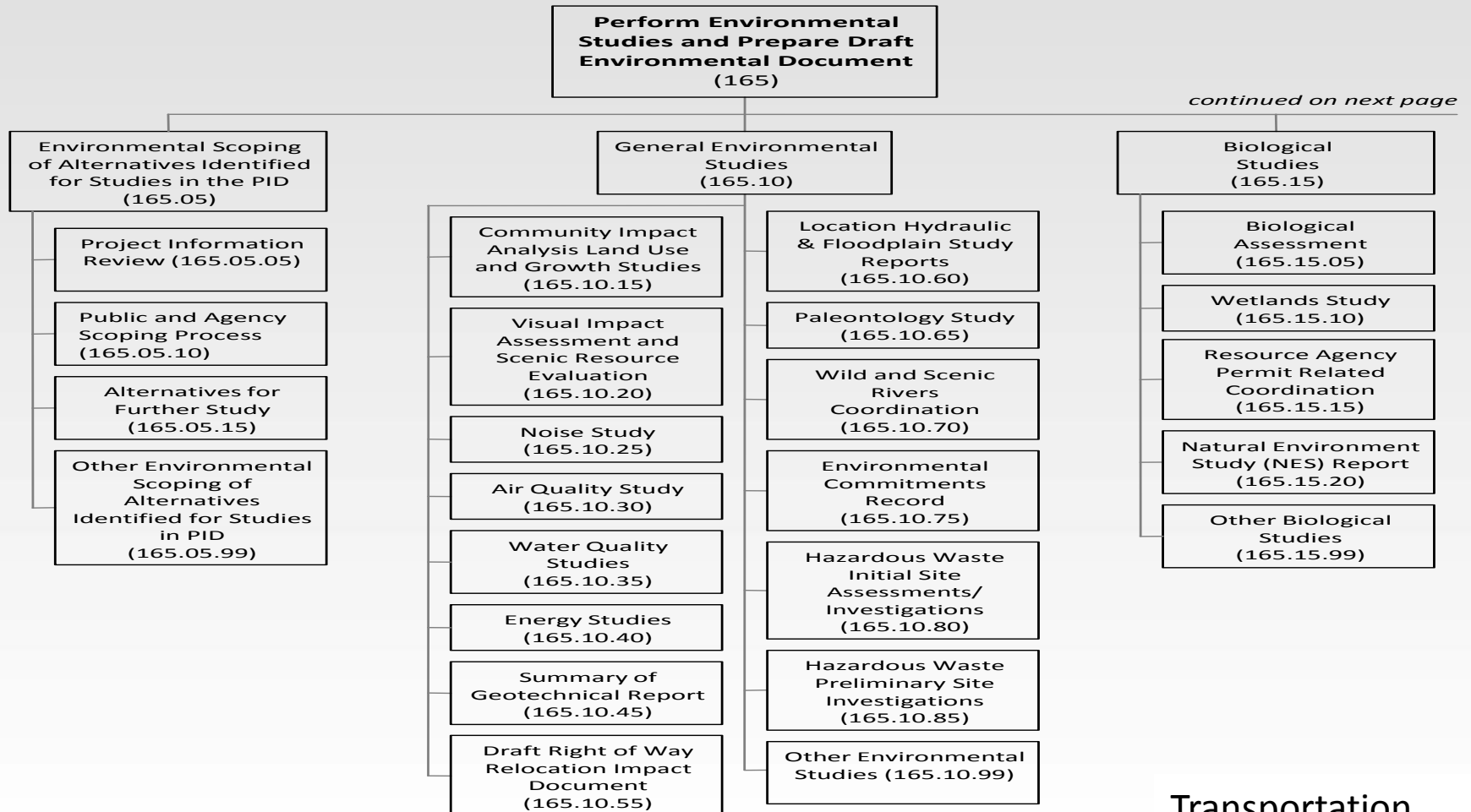
- Mission: Provide a safe, sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation system to enhance California's economy and Livability.
- Goal 3: Make long lasting, smart mobility decisions that improve the environment support a vibrant economy and build communities not sprawl.

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Introduction to Environmental

165 Perform Environmental Studies and Prepare Draft Environmental Document



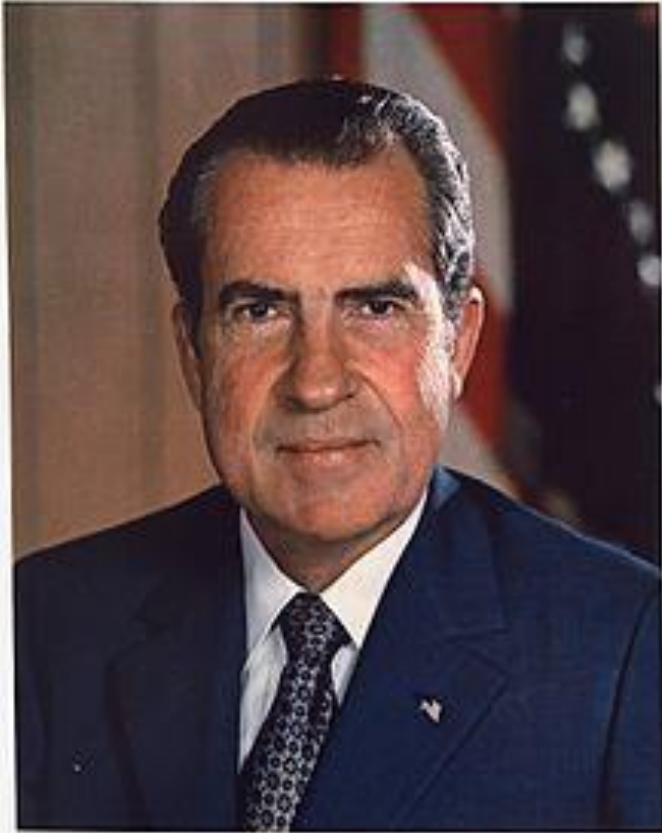
Introduction to Environmental

There are more than 600 environmental planners and environmental engineers in Caltrans representing many specialties including:

- Air Quality
- Archeology
- Biology
- Water Quality
- Noise
- Hazardous Waste
- Coordinator

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NEPA 1969



CEQA 1970



Introduction to Environmental

- **To comply we must:**
 - Analyze and evaluate impacts on the physical, social, and economic environment
 - Mitigate impacts [CEQA and FHWA Reg. 23 CFR 771.105 (d)(2)]

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Applies to State and Federal Actions

- **NEPA**
 - Federal Funding
 - Federal Property
 - Federal Approval
- **CEQA**
 - State Funding
 - State Property
 - State Approval

Introduction to Environmental

The NEPA Program Assignment

FHWA assigned, and the Department assumed, all of the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) Secretary's responsibilities under NEPA. This assignment to the Division of Environmental includes all projects on the State Highway System and all Local Assistance Projects off of the State Highway System within the State of California - except for certain categorical exclusions that FHWA assigned to the Department pursuant to 23 U.S. Code 326. {23 USC 326 & 23 USC 327}

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Other State and Federal Laws

- CA Clean Air Act
- CA Endangered Species Act
- Porter-Cologne Water Act
- CA Fish and Game Code
- AB32/SB32/AB2800 – Related to Climate Change
- Federal Clean Air Act
- Federal Clean Water Act
- Presidential Executive Orders
- Federal Endangered Species Act

Expectations of Environmental

WBS 150 and PID Development

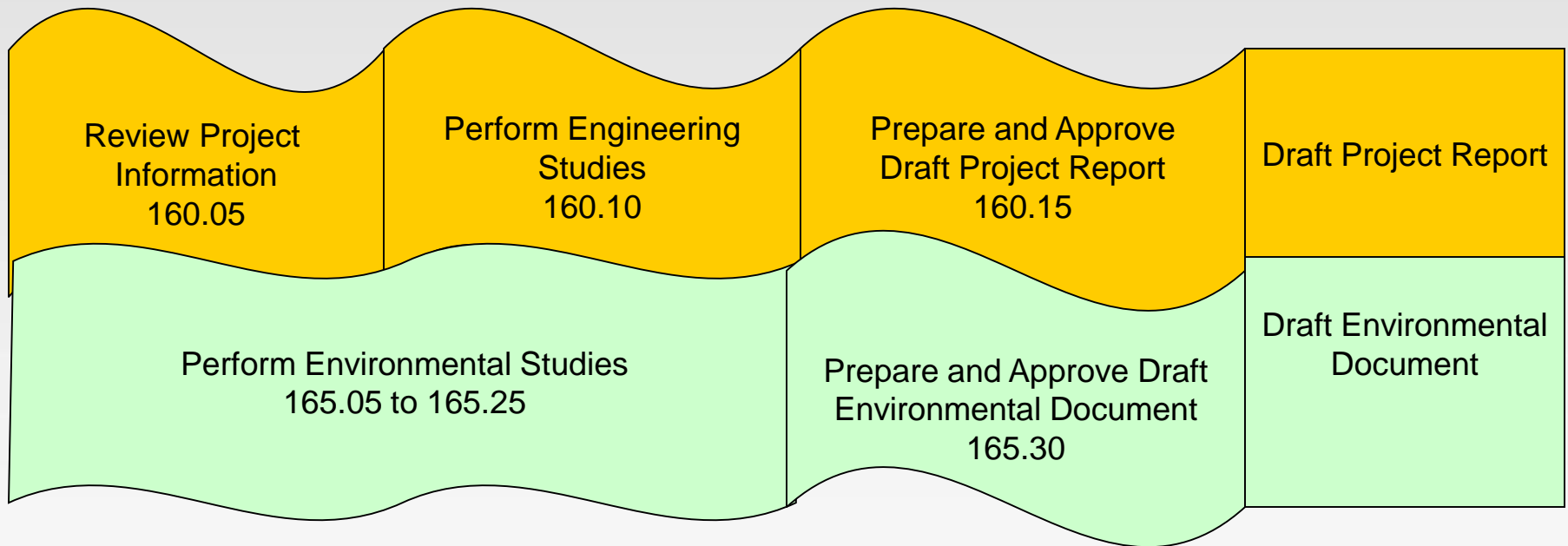
Purpose and Need	Environmental Constraints	Conceptual Geometrics of Alternatives	Preliminary Environmental Evaluation	Project Initiation Document
Initial Ideas Project Area	Cultural, economic, social, endangered species, waters, wetlands, parks, etc.	(footprint)	impacts, costs, schedule, proposed environmental document type	(PSR, PSR/PR, PSSR, etc)
I.D. the Problem and Assess the Site 150.05		Develop Alternatives 150.10 Analyze Alternatives 150.15	Perform Preliminary Environmental Evaluation 150.20	

(What's the problem? What can we do to fix it?)

Final Products



Expectations of Environmental

WBS 160 and 165 and Draft Environmental Document



(What happens if we do something about it?)

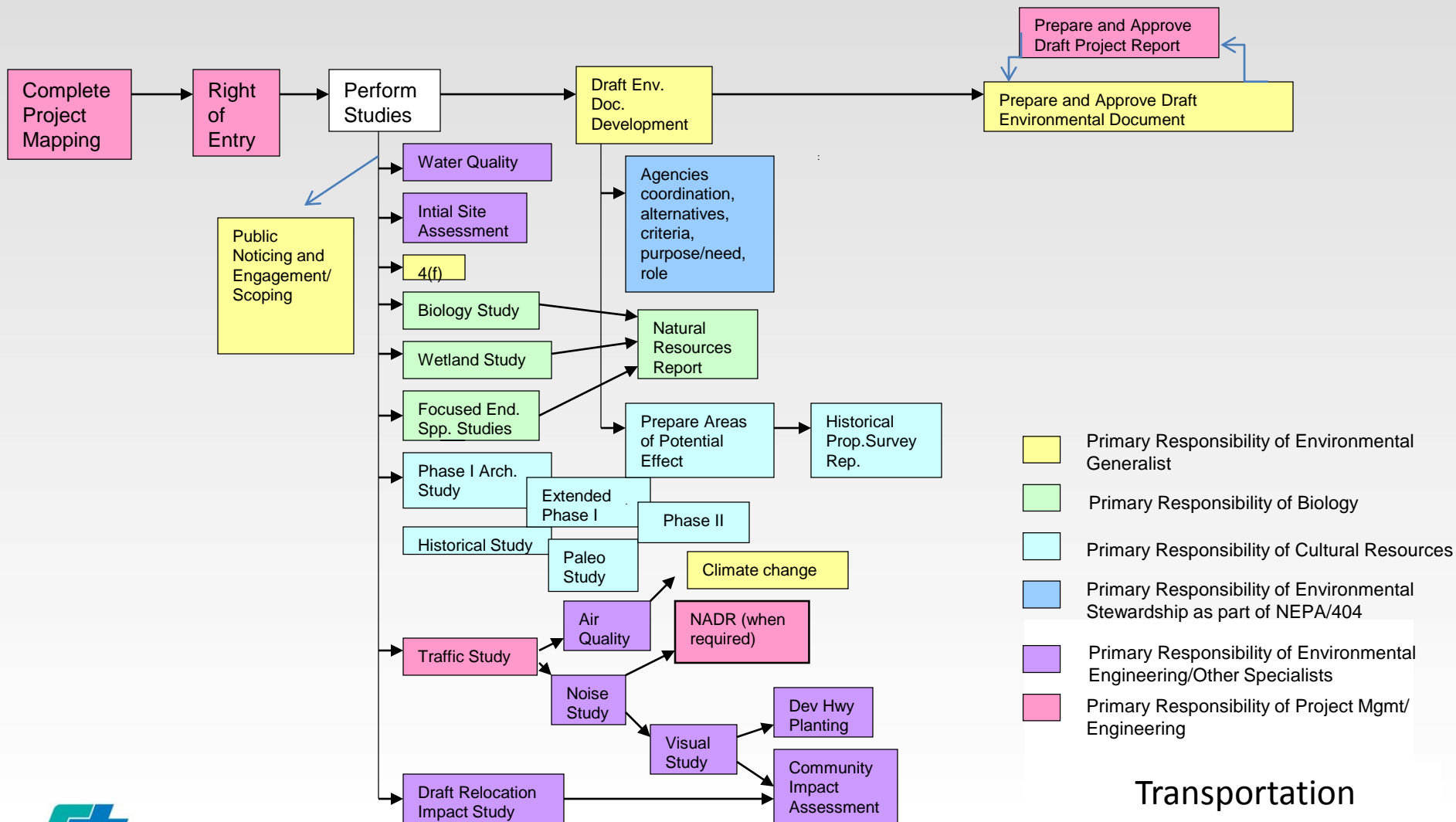
Final Products

-  Primary Responsibility of Engineer
 -  Primary Responsibility of Environmental
- Transportation
Planning Academy

Expectations of Environmental

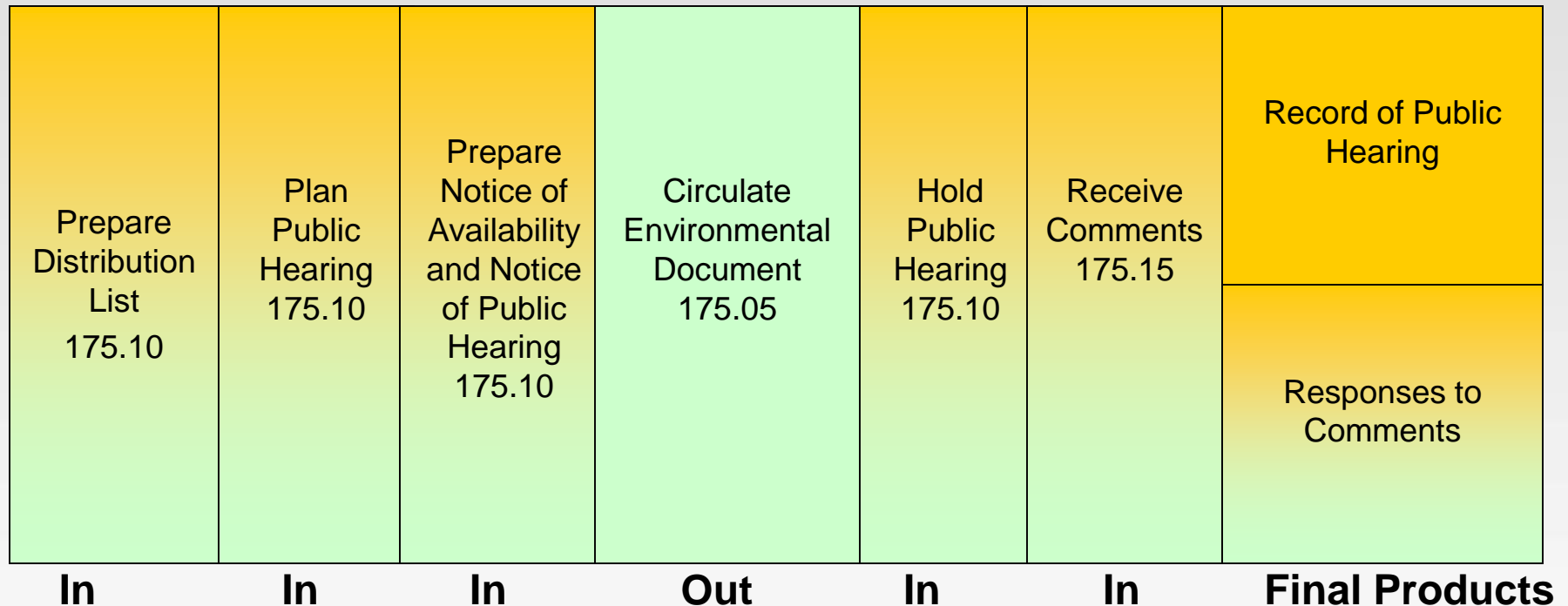
- Tools and Resources
 - Environmental Study Request
 - Mapping
 - PDT team members
 - Early and on-going communication (scope creep, unforeseen features, any risks to project delivery)
 - other expectations?

Expectations of Environmental



Expectations of Environmental

WBS 175 Circulate Draft Environmental Document



Primary Responsibility of Engineer



Primary Responsibility of Environmental

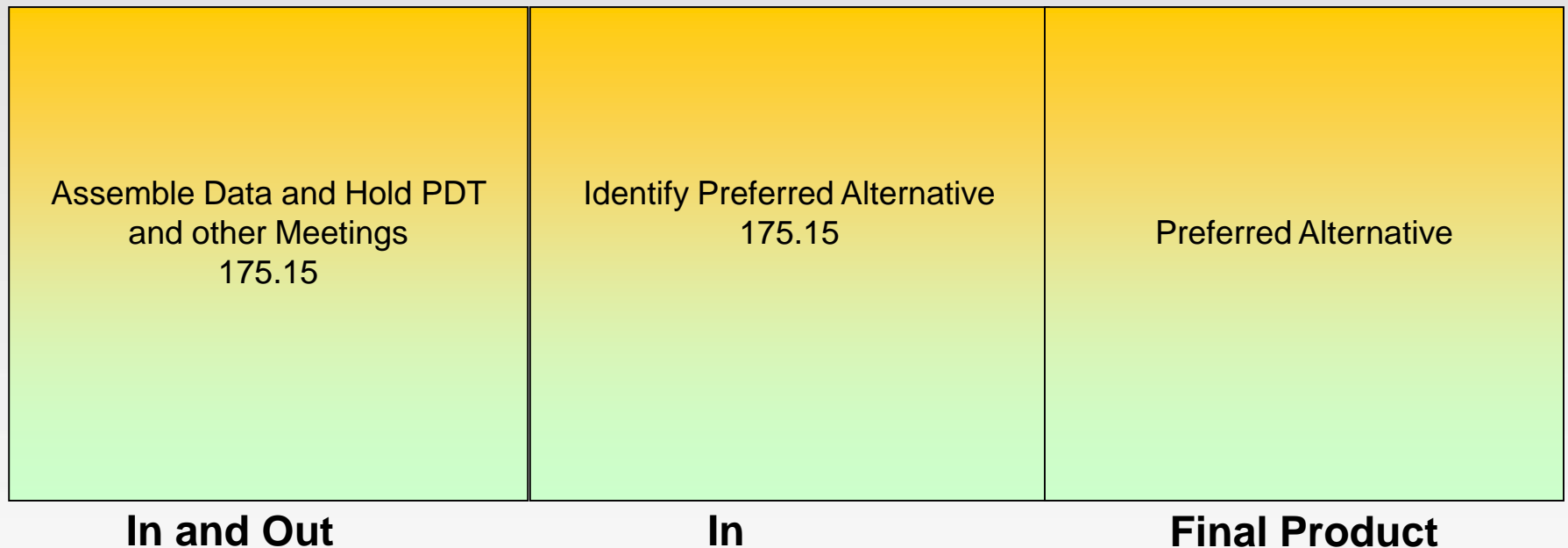


Dual Responsibility of Engineer/Environmental

(What do the people think about it?)

Expectations of Environmental

WBS 175 Select Preferred Project Alternative



Primary Responsibility of Engineer



Primary Responsibility of Environmental

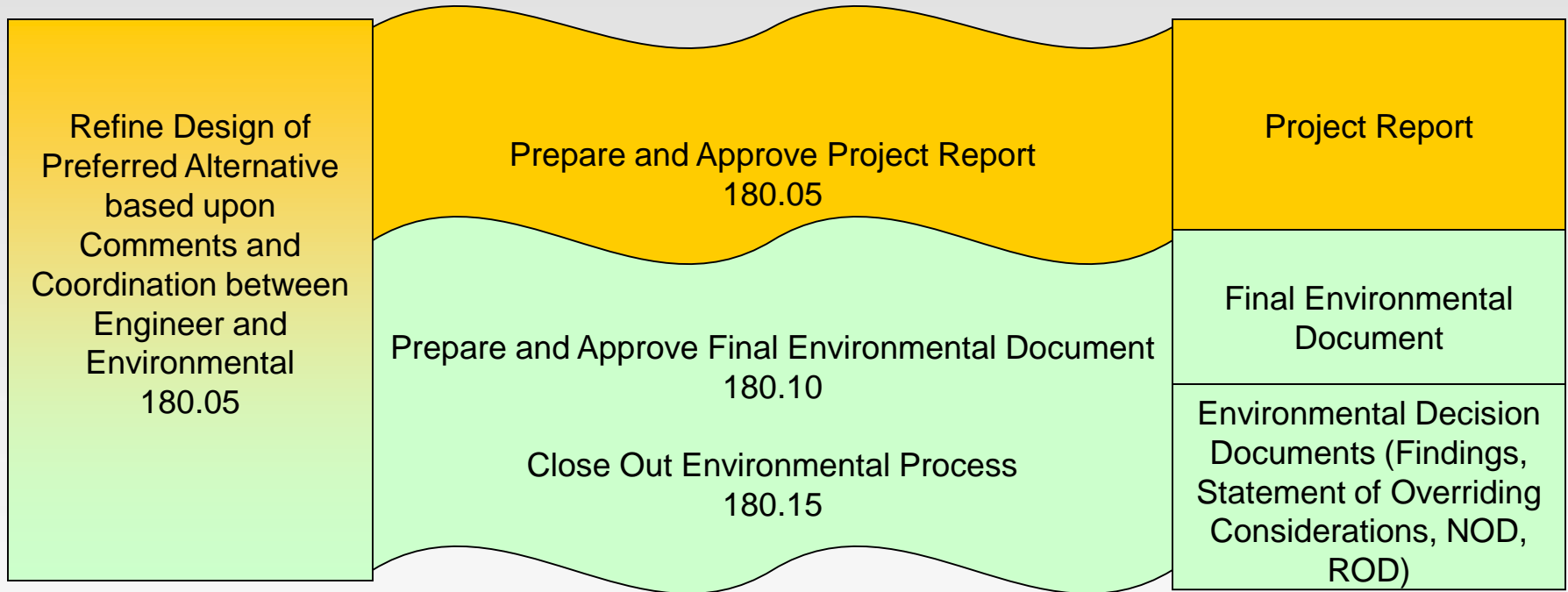


Dual Responsibility of Engineer/Environmental

(So what ARE we going to do?)

Expectations of Environmental

WBS 180 and Final Environmental Document



(Ask for Approvals. Tell the People.)

Environmental Hot Topics

- Environmental Compliance
 - Develop feasible, biddable, buildable environmental commitments, when necessary, proportionate to impacts
 - Disclose anticipated permit, licenses, agreements, and certifications (PLACs), environmental commitments, and DSB, if applicable
 - Participate in PDT and PSE (30/60/90 review), and track and implement during construction.
 - Post-construction environmental commitments – Status, track, and complete.

Environmental Hot Topics



MITIGATION

Reduce GHG emissions

ADAPTATION

Planning and designing the transportation system to be able to withstand changing climate conditions

Environmental Hot Topics

The Environmental Generalist Role

- Analyze the Climate Change Impacts related to a proposed project in a CEQA analysis
- Get to know your transportation planning counterparts
- Become familiar with the RTP/SCS
- Be an advocate on the PDT
- Ask Questions (what can be done in project planning through project delivery to reduce GHG and prepare for extreme weather events)

Environmental Contact Information

- HQ Contact information

Environmental Coordinators

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/ser/contact.htm>

- District contact – Communicate early and often. See assigned Env. Senior and assigned env. staff
- Communication procedures – See district contact.
- Are there any things that must be communicated to levels above the project?

Environmental References Information

- Key guidance materials
 - Environmental Generalist/Practitioner Hints, Resources and Tools – Guidance for Compliance <http://env.onramp.dot.ca.gov/emo/environmental-generalist-hints-resources-and-tools-hrt>
 - Standard Environmental Reference – Guidance for Compliance <http://www.dot.ca.gov/ser/vol1/vol1.htm>
 - Standard Environmental Reference – Ch 39: Incorporating Environmental Commitments into Design <http://www.dot.ca.gov/ser/vol1/sec5/ch39impc/chap39.htm>
 - Project Delivery Directive – Permissible Design Activities during NEPA <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/projdev/directive/PD-10-Permissible-Design-Activities-During-NEPA.pdf>
 - Permits, Licenses, Agreements, and Certifications (PLACs), SSPs, and NSSPs Guidance <http://env.dot.ca.gov/library/library.shtml#placs>

Environmental References Information

- Additional Key guidance
 - Disposal, Storage, and Borrow Sites,
<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/oppd/dib/dib85.pdf>
 - Construction Manual, Section 7, Environmental Stewardship
(<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/construc/constmanual/chapter7/sec7-1.pdf>)
 - State-Cost Utility Design Activities prior to Env Approval
http://www.dot.ca.gov/ser/downloads/memos/RW_Utility.pdf
 - Timing of Final Design in Relation to NEPA Approval Memo
http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/env/nepa_pilot/pdf/policies/Timing_NEPA_App_Rick_Memo_Attach.pdf
 - Rights of Entry for Environmental Work
<http://www.dot.ca.gov/ser/downloads/memos/ROW-EnvMemo.pdf>
 - Begin Environmental Memo
<http://www.dot.ca.gov/ser/downloads/memos/FelkerBeginEnvMemo.pdf>

Take Home Messages

- Contact Environmental early and often
- Contact Environmental when a project initiates or changes
- Regulatory noticing may occur at various points throughout the project delivery process
- PA/ED process is an interactive process. Design features may change based on design inputs and our outputs
- Resolve concerns and issues early
- Feasible, buildable, biddable environmental commitments
- Environmental is involved throughout the life of the project, and at times afterwards.

Take Home Messages

Questions